

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) and Congressman Devin Nunes, (R-Visalia) introduced legislation to designate approximately 69,000 acres of land in the Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park as the John Krebs Wilderness. In addition, the bill proposes enlarging an existing wilderness area by adding 43,450 acres to the Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park designation. Former Congressman John Krebs represented the 17th Congressional District in California between 1975 and 1979.

"John was, and still is, a strong voice for our Valley," said Costa. "He was a focused leader in Congress, and naming this wilderness area is a fitting tribute to him. I am excited be an original sponsor, and I look forward to seeing it pass through Congress. It was his effort in Congress that set aside and protected Mineral King. Thus this honor is fitting and appropriate."

"Wilderness designations have historically been highly contentious. I am pleased that we were able to work together to ensure that all of the concerns of my constituents were addressed prior to moving forward. This is the right way to govern and I believe this proposal will garner strong bipartisan support," said Rep. Nunes

Congressman Krebs was born in Berlin, Germany in 1926 and moved to Israel in 1933. He started practicing law in Fresno in 1958, and served as a member of the Fresno County Planning Commission from 1965 to 1969. He then served on the Fresno County Board of Supervisors from 1970 to 1974 before elected to the 94th Congress in 1974. Krebs is now retired and lives in Fresno.